

The Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1912.

THE SINGLE-TERM MOVEMENT.

It is the wisdom of the framers of the Confederate Constitution in limiting the Confederate President to one term about to be initiated and vindicated by the United States?

Five years ago the Constitution of the Confederate States of America was adopted, and it contained a provision fixing the term of office of the President at six years, and making him ineligible to reelection. Half a century later the Congress of the United States of America is proposing to insert an absolutely identical provision in the Constitution. The Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday reported favorably the Works resolution restricting the presidential term of office to a single term of six years. A minority report, favoring a single term of four years, also will be made from the committee, which is practically unanimous in desiring to render the President ineligible for a second term. A similar resolution is pending before the House Committee on Judiciary. Introduced by its chairman, Henry D. Clayton, of Alabama, if Congress adopts the resolution the proposed amendment to the Constitution will have to be submitted to the several States for their ratification. There is no reason to believe that the States would refuse to ratify, although the amendment cannot be adopted in time to affect any of the present candidates for the presidency.

They are sorely misled who interpret this movement as an admission that Roosevelt is so powerful and so dangerous that he will force an inhibition against himself to be placed in the fundamental law. The question was first raised when his forbears were planting cabbage and wearing wooden shoes in Manhattan. In the original draft of the Federal Constitution of 1787 the provision as to the term and ineligibility of the President was identical with that embodied in the Confederate Constitution. In fact, the Constitutional Convention debated fully and at length the term of office of the President and whether or not he should be re-eligible to office. Everything from life tenure to a two-year term was proposed and debated. When a motion was made to allow the President to be re-eligible and carried it was Virginia, Delaware, North Carolina and South Carolina who voted against the re-eligibility of the President. The question has been frequently agitated since the adoption of the national organic law.

The first thought of the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was right. Time has vindicated that position. Old Gouverneur Morris, speaking on the floor of that convention, argued for re-eligibility to a second term, because "the (the President) will make hay while the sun shines." He meant that the President would try to administer so well and effect so many reforms in his first term that his mere record would compel his reelection. Experience has shown, however, that the sort of hay that the occupant of the White House makes under his first lease is not the sort of hay that Morris meant. The President is not so much concerned about his record as he is about getting his fences in order. In the first four years he plays politics; in the second four he may be a statesman, but until he is re-elected he believes in Tom Reed's statement that "a statesman is a dead politician."

The President should be limited to one term and made ineligible for another term. The present view is not so much the possibility of a third term as it is of a negligible first term. If that were done he would seek to give the country a term of constructive statesmanship, not of obstructive politics; he would formulate a definite plan and devise policies and carry them out without fear of punishment and without molestation from the party leaders. Progress, not power, would be his purpose. He could make appointments not for future reference, but for present efficiency; he could champion first-class measures without having to be heckled by some whose fortunes the measure might mar. He could, in a word, be more a President of the nation and less a titular head of a party. To limit the presidential term is to limit the right of the people to elect whom they please, but the people through the Constitution voluntarily limit themselves in many ways.

AMBASSADOR VON BIEBERSTEIN.

Whatever may be the specific commissions with which he may be charged, it is generally accepted, both in London and in Berlin, that the appointment of Baron Marschall von Bieberstein as ambassador to England in succession to Count Wolff-Metternich is an expression of the Kaiser's desire for the amelioration of Anglo-German relations. It is looked upon as a return peace offering in acknowledgment of the olive branch Great Britain ex-

tended in Lord Haldane's visit to the German capital early in the year.

Baron von Bieberstein is admittedly the ablest and most resourceful of all German diplomats. More than that, no man in the diplomatic service of the empire is personally more popular with or enjoys to a greater degree the confidence of his fellow-countrymen of all classes. These latter possessions, it is recognized, cannot but prove a potent factor in bringing about a better understanding and more friendly feeling between the masses of the two nations. Nor could there be a more important consideration, since at the last chief cause of Anglo-German friction lies in German popular distrust of the British, and since, moreover, popular distrust is not all on one side. No matter how conciliatory may be the official advances between Berlin and London, the solution of the problem of genuine entente and of the elimination of the menace of hostilities rests ultimately in the "personal equation." In bringing the German and the British people to knowing and respecting one another.

Baron von Bieberstein knows human nature. That in itself would in all the circumstances of reciprocal suspicion, irritation and jealousy, in truth, seem to demonstrate the wisdom of his appointment. In that light he is a missioner from the German to the British masses.

As to the specific purposes of his appointment, the policies and questions he is expected to settle, if any, speculation is naturally rife. France sees, or professes to see, in the baron's transfer from Constantinople to London, a design to detach Great Britain from the Anglo-French entente, and break up the post between Great Britain, Russia and France. In other quarters belief is expressed that the main duty of the new ambassador in the field of negotiations will be to complete arrangements for Anglo-German acquisition and division of Portugal's African domains. That issue, it will be remembered, was supposed to have been one of the principal topics discussed by Lord Haldane and the German Chancellor during the former's stay in London in the "conversations" between Berlin.

In the light of British interests and of the history of the compacts in question, French apprehension may be dismissed as somewhat of a bogey. The Portuguese suggestion receives, however, decided coloring from communications which are said to have taken place recently between Lisbon and Berlin, on the one hand, and Berlin and London, on the other. Yet this is a minor matter, so far as the outside world is concerned, compared with Baron von Bieberstein's possible success in uniting the German and the British nations in a bond of lasting amity and removing a thorn from the flesh of both that is constantly threatening the peace of Europe.

He could not score a greater triumph or one in which all the nations and humanity and civilization as well are more deeply interested!

SAVE VIRGINIA HISTORY.

Whether Virginia retains the ninety-nine manuscripts which she claims from the Loring estate or not, the matter has served to arouse the desire of the Virginia people to preserve and safeguard in every way their priceless collection of historical manuscripts now stored in the State Library. In importance and in size, that collection is second only to that of the Library of Congress. No amount of money could compensate the Old Dominion for the loss of these matchless records, and yet they are unprotected from fire and destruction.

At its latest session the General Assembly was requested to appropriate \$5,000 to provide fireproof cases for these manuscripts, but with inexcusable negligence the money was refused. The result is that these records are still liable to be destroyed any day. They could never be replaced; they cannot be duplicated. The State has refused to do its duty, and only the concerted action of patriotic citizens can cut out the fire risk and put these invaluable historical treasures in safe receptacles. Two such patriotic citizens have already subscribed \$15 as the beginning of a fund to provide the required fireproof cases for these records, and their excellent and most commendable example should be followed by thousands of others. The auditor of the Times-Dispatch will receive and acknowledge subscriptions to this fund. The call is one which should have prompt and substantial response from all lovers of Virginia history, from all who would preserve forever the written evidences of the greatness of the Old Dominion and her primacy in shaping the destiny of the American people. The raising of the required \$5,000 will insure to posterity the perpetuation of the record of Virginia's magnificent past and will save for all time the materials which go to make up Virginia's history.

New York recently lost by fire all her splendid collection of historical documents, stored in her State Library. Will Virginians shut their eyes to their duty?

THE FIGHT ON TUBERCULOSIS.

Some time ago the British government appointed a commission to investigate the treatment of tuberculous diseases, particularly in hospitals and sanatoria. The report of the commission, which has just been made, is a very important, and in many respects illuminating, document. It is of little less than world-wide interest, since ravages of the white plague are little less than world-wide, and for one especial reason is of exceptional interest to the American people.

There are perhaps more sanatoria for tuberculous sufferers in this than in any other country, and new ones are being constantly established. None the less, there is in certain quarters opposition to, not to say prejudice against, such institutions, and controversies as to their utility are not uncommon. The same opposition or prejudice, it appears, obtains in England; and a part of the duty of the commission was to ascertain whether it had tenable grounds for existence.

The report is conservative in discussing this point, as it is in discussing all others; yet it is most emphatic in its endorsement of the sanatorium system of treatment. It weighs both sides temperately. While recognizing that treatment in sanatoria has not always entirely fulfilled expectations, this, it says, is because of the neglect of early symptoms, owing to public ignorance of their significance and the necessity for the promptest treatment possible; and because, moreover, of the admission of unsuitable cases.

Other contributions to the disappointment, the commission sets forth, are omission of proper care after leaving the sanatoria and inability to man always the institutions with expert physicians, with the consequent rendering of their management more that of homes than that of therapeutic retreats. These unfavorable conditions, however, are, it is shown, not all abatable, but are being rapidly abated.

On the other hand, the commission does not favor confining all tuberculous patients in sanatoria, as not a few "zealots" would have done. It distinctly antagonizes that proposition. It argues that private treatment by the same methods employed in sanatoria is in many cases not merely possible, but, for some reasons, decidedly preferable. What is insisted upon is that proper and expert treatment should be made available for all sufferers from tuberculosis, and to that end sanatoria should be provided.

Also, it is urged that for fighting the scourge dispensaries be established in the United Kingdom to the number of 225 or 300, or "at the rate of one to every 150,000 or 200,000 inhabitants in cities, and for smaller numbers in scattered rural regions." These dispensaries the commission would have serve as receiving houses, centres of diagnosis, general information, but also, and agencies for curative treatment.

Thoughtful reading of the report is calculated to widen immensely public appreciation of the great economic and humanitarian interests involved in stamping out the white plague, and at the same time to stimulate vastly encouragement of the sanatoria movement. The document vindicates thoroughly the latter. It is a most convincing appeal for popular financial support of the institutions already established, and for the foundation and maintenance of others.

As to the question whether the terror can be completely conquered, the commission entertains no doubt. What with the continued process of abatement of the "unfavorable conditions," now constituting the chief obstacle in the crusade, it is confidently believed that sanatoria treatment and its auxiliaries, such as similar treatment in homes, where it is practicable, and dispensaries, can and will put the enemy under foot. In this country achieving the victory is largely only a matter of public liberality.

UNPROFITABLE ECONOMY.

Some parlor economists at the head of a vast American railroad system have ordered their office employees to waste no more pins. They may find that this method of saving is as unprofitable as it was to Timmins, an acquaintance of the Boston Globe.

Timmins one day saw a pin in the street. He recalled at once the old saying that a thrifty "pick-up" would bring good luck. He bent over to get the pin. His hat tumbled off and rolled into the gutter. His eyeglasses fell and broke on the pavement. His suspenders broke. He burst the buttons holes on the back of his shirt collar. He almost had apoplexy.

Perhaps the railway clerks in the case cited are wasting valuable time at the luncheon while they are conserving cheap supplies at the pigot. But—Timmins got the pin.

The Sandy Valley News says:

"A thing of able-bodied men writing letters to their friends asking aid and alms every little misfortune they have is the whine of the week-ling. We know of a family of several strong boys asking the charity of the community to help defray the expenses of a sick brother. This not only lowers them in the estimation of good people, but such surroundings to little obstacles tends to their manhood and dries them up. To work like men and take care of your unfortunate brother, and you will feel the pleasure that duty and difficulties overcome always bring."

That is a pertinent preachment. The present tendency everywhere in such matters seems to be "let somebody else bear the burden" or "let this State bear it." There is too much individual shirking of duty and too much inclination to make the community shoulder responsibilities of individuals.

Is it possible that old lady Democracy is going to say again at Baltimore "Waltz me around again, Willie?"

The fate of Lorimer will be decided on May 20, as well as the fate of every Senator who votes to seat him.

As usual, the crop of June brides in Richmond is larger than anywhere else.

President Taft's use of the telephone in his campaign is a novelty only in the fact that the wires were not pulled.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

How to Make Money.

A young man who says he is a constant reader has written in that he is very ambitious and wants to make money. He doesn't know how.

There is really nothing simpler that we know of. Any man who wants to make money, and lots of it, more than he can carry and a great deal more than he can spend. To make money you first find a nice dark cellar, which has no windows in it. It should be well removed from civilization's prying eyes. Into this cellar smuggle a nice set of dice and a melting pot such as you have seen plumbers use. Melt up a lot of powder sugar bowls, spoons and a silver-plated cake dish or two. Wedding presents are handy for this purpose.

After melting up a pot full of metal, pour it into the dice and let it cool. After it has cooled, all you have to do is to go out and spend it. Another way to make money is with a printing press and some steel engravings. These two methods are the only way to make money that we ever discovered.

A Great Boss Race Truth.

It is a truth eternal that is well known to the town.

But a large part of the public hasn't found it out.

Full many a steel which should be fastened to a back.

Is allowed to show his prowess on a one-mile track.

Esperanto.

It's pretty middling hard to see why you should want to learn it.

Speak that nerve-jarring line of talk that's known as Esperanto.

It seems as though there's enough strange languages here now.

They shouldn't force another one upon us.

The eagle-goose baby talk that's known to hammock spooners.

And is so very popular with all the infant crooners.

Is one that has been hard to learn.

For it is in a style.

That's never spoken twice alike and changes all the while.

The language of the house is one of very weird creation.

And it cannot be understood without interpretation.

No student of philology can always guess it right.

So for the common herd to try seems to be foolish, quite.

The line of talk the bookman gives.

Keels all the people guessing.

And it goes 'way past most of us.

We do not mind confessing.

The college jargon is a thing that few can understand.

And there's a world old line of gab in the jargon and grandstand.

That makes this Esperanto, stung along weak and pale and foolish.

When fans get ruy in the fifth with talk that's really foolish.

It keeps a person busy but to try and get the hang.

Of conversation pulled off in the latest brand of slang.

Then come the foreign dialects, the French and Dutch and Russian.

This Esperanto may be just what its friends claim, sublime.

But what it comes to learning it, we really haven't time.

The System.

Tain't no use to worry.

Tain't no use to hurry.

Tain't no use to fret all the while.

What's the use of cursing?

What's the use of cursing?

When it's just as easy for to smile?

What's the use of nagging?

What's the use of nagging?

Your only way to get your steam.

What's the use of peevish?

What's the use of peevish?

Things ain't always bad as they may seem.

Some folk have a system.

And some folk have a system.

This is how they stand all to the good.

They let other worry.

Hurry, hurry, hurry.

But they keep right on a-sawin' wood.

Voice of the People

Richeson and the Insanity Pien.

To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

Sir:—It is truly astounding to see how lightly the crime of murder is treated in this country, and the plea of insanity eternally dragged in when all else fails.

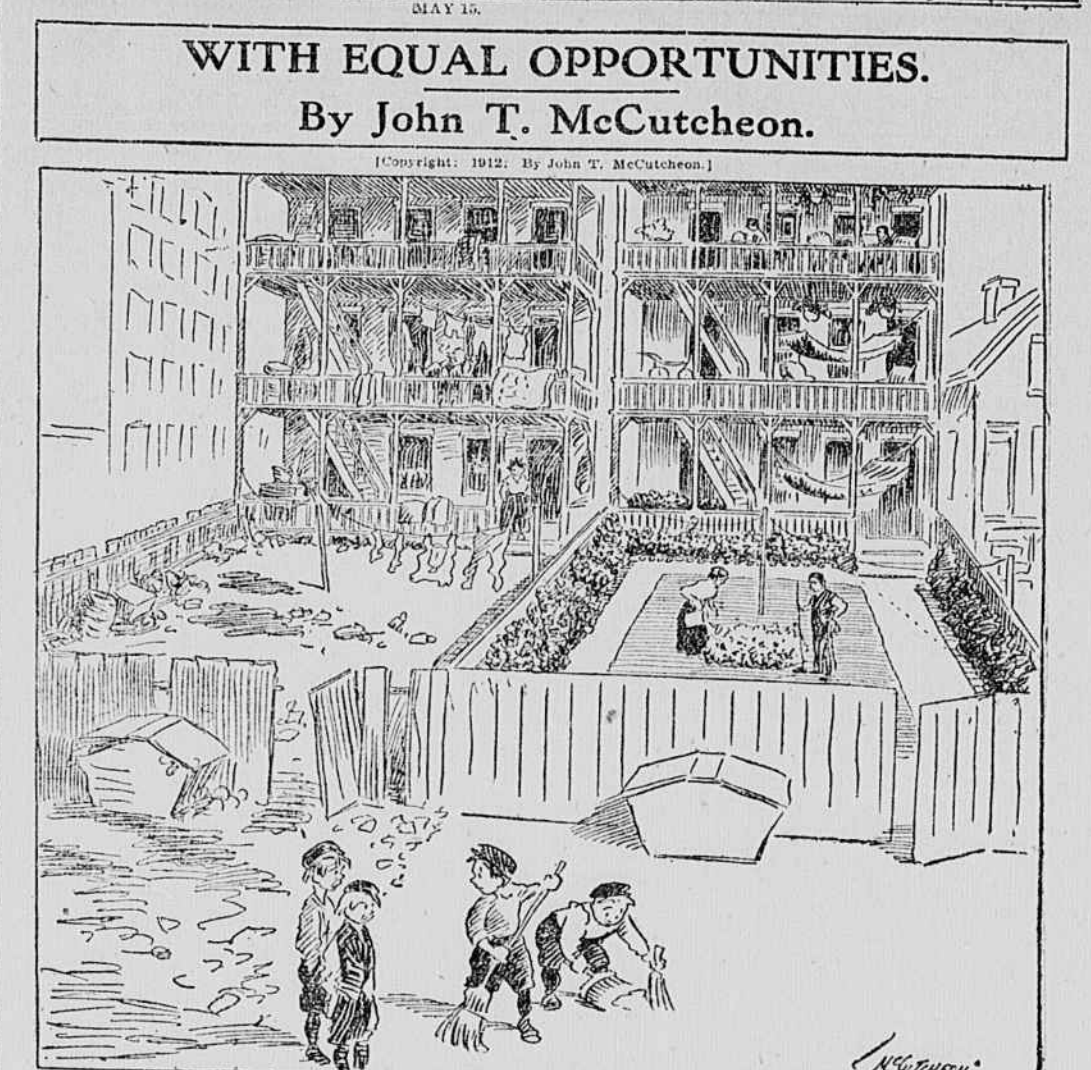
The case of the Rev. Clarence V. T. and Daniel Richeson, known as the "creaky" case, is a most interesting one. It is a case of a man who has been murdered, and the man who has been murdered is a man who has been murdered.

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First Little Boy—"Why don't you help clean up? Don't you know this is clean-up week?"
Second Little Boy—"Aw, my pa don't believe in these reform movements. He says these fads make him tired."

ture the law desires to allow go free! Surely no case of deliberate, premeditated murder was ever worse than this, and I do not care if 100 medical men, so-called experts, were to declare this wretch insane. I say (and thousands will say with me) that the electric chair is too good for Richeson, and if he does not go there, then the law is a farce.

This bringing in a plea of insanity at the eleventh hour, and when all else has failed, is absolute humbug, and an outrage against society, law and order. Why was not the plea of insanity introduced at the commencement of his trial? Simply because the attorney for Richeson knew he was so. Does a man or woman who has after he has committed a murder? May Providence protect us from such reasoning and law, and from attorneys that make such plea. It is certainly the very best way to aid and abet murder and crime, and the man or men who, as Richeson will most assuredly be guilty of murder.

Pray permit me, Mr. Editor, to say how much your article, so very commendable, is appreciated on the above case in your issue of the Times-Dispatch of May 10. The law should take its course; it will be a travesty of justice if a plea of insanity is not entered. If Richeson escapes his just penalty the law becomes a farce and murder allowed to run rampant. And may I ask who pays this "expert" medical man? Is he paid out of the taxes collected from the people? But surely the money is not squandered this way, or is the "expert" paid by the relatives of the condemned criminal, and by what right has this "expert" opinion to overrule the law?

This plea of insanity is so absurd. There is this fellow, Richeson, a self-confessed murderer, who acknowledged his awful crime, and because he acknowledged his guilt they say he is insane! What a mockery of everything that is right and just! Are the people going to tolerate this sort of thing? Richeson confessed his guilt as to the murder of the woman, and his disclosures, and this human wolf is to be free!

In closing, I cannot do better than make a quotation from your most magnificent editorial on this case. It is as follows: "The so-called 'experts' assembly' clog the processes of justice."

The people must declare themselves in no uncertain voice at such a flagrant miscarriage of justice.

Nelson county.

Wilson and Washington.

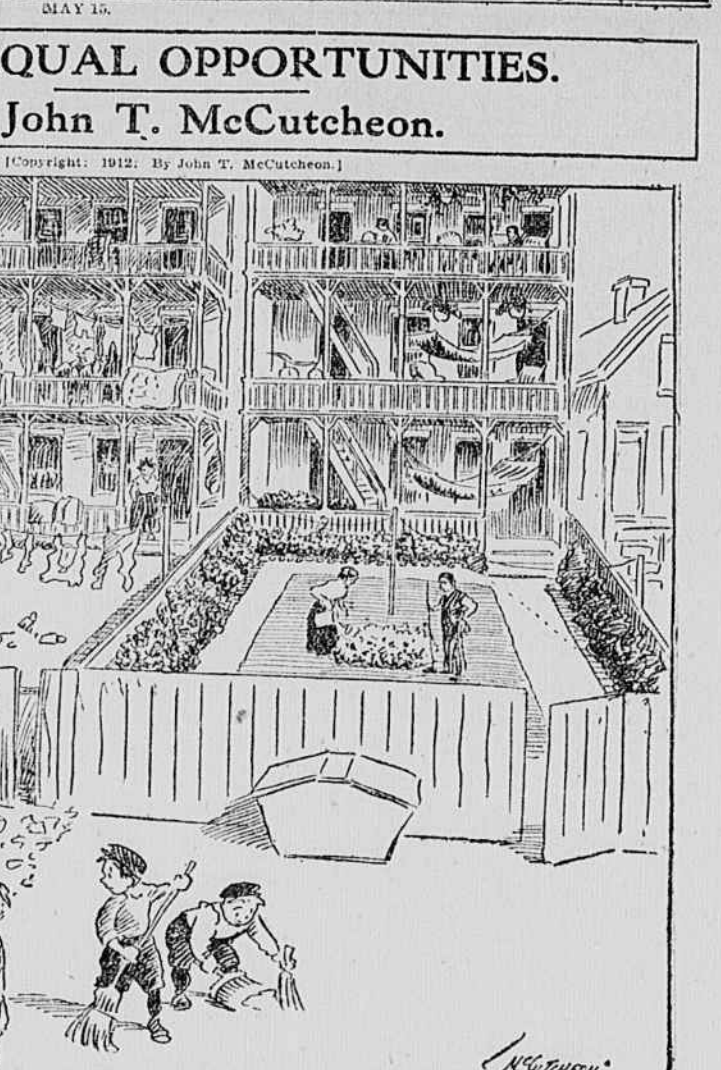
To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

Sir:—For an educator to attack a classic production, affording no other evidence than his own opinion, is an offense against literature. But when that classic is character and patriotism as embodied in the person of Washington, the offense takes on an aggravated form. Any suggestion that would weaken the force of or tend to discredit the classic character of Washington should be resented by Virginians—more especially by Washington is the classic patriot and hero of the nation, as well.

Washington and Lee are to-day the classic heroes of Virginia school children. In all the attributes that go to make up the Christian, the one typifies the other. Washington was Lee's admired model—and that their names should be united in a historic collocation, in due order of events, was a natural sequence.

In patriotism the one was superior to success; the other to defeat; the one was greatest in denying himself profit from his achievements—the other won his greatest distinction by the example of equality and forbearance under bitter defeat.

In Christianity they modeled themselves, as near as may be, upon the character of Him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me." That they should be used as models—to point a moral, to adorn a tale, in the public school system, is eminently fitting. The offense Dr. Wilson committed, as was pointed out in former letter (published April 26), was his attack upon the classic character of Washington, in denying the integrity of his sentiments as expressed in his "farewell address," attributing those sentiments to General Hamilton—thereby tending to discredit his intelligence and private character, and weakening the force of that character as a model; as one, who could be charged with the use of borrowed sentiments, to which



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his own heart gave but a passing echo.

Hence it is that Virginians should be chary in adopting Dr. Wilson—at least until the progressive evolution of his sentiments can recognize the character of Washington—and the traditional history of Pocahontas.

Bentonsville. E. F. S.

Sparrows for Hen-Peod.

To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

Sir:—I see in your Sunday's issue comments the English Department recommends the English sparrow for food. Why not? They are a nice, clean bird, and eat equally as good as the robin. I have found another use for them. From a number of years I have been keeping a few hens in my back yard at quite a loss, paying out about \$2 per chicken for feed and getting back about \$1.50. The sparrows taking toll equal to the largest toll exacted by our millers for grinding grain. This last winter the toll became such a nuisance that I determined to reduce the number of birds if possible. Arming myself with a No. 12 shotgun, loaded with No. 4 shot, I secreted myself in a convenient thicket, and waited for the sparrows to flock. At first I was out a loss as to what to do with so many birds, but I determined to dress them for the table. My hens were suffering for animal food, I determined to try if they would eat the sparrows. I began by chopping a block, with a sharp hatchet, I began at the head and chopped them, feathers and all, and threw them to the hens. To my great satisfaction they devoured them greedily and seemed to thrive on them; in fact, they learned to come at the sound of the hatchet and fall fast as chopped up to get the meat as fast as chopped up.

I would like very much to learn of a cheap way to exterminate the pest. To the Agricultural Department give a receipted order of purest fowl, Hampton, Va. JAS. R. HAW.

The Stolen Kiss.

(Note.—The Times-Dispatch, while on a tour in Italy, became tired and slept in a hedge beside the road. A girl passing along was smitten by his beauty, and kneeling beside the sleeper, kissed his lips.)

In the sunny land of Italy,
Where the Arno flows,
Monnet, the singer, lay in a leafy
Young Milton did repose;
For so faint he'd grown and weary
That sought the traveler rest;
In his sleeping hours were blest,
While waking thoughts enthrill.

And while quiet in seclusion,
Of the stork, the herald of love,
Wandered forth the sleeper's spirit
In Elysian fields to stray;
But, however sweet his visions,
He a dream of purest fowl,
For sleeping thoughts enthrill us,
While waking thoughts enthrill.

Up the shaded, ancient pathway
Came a plebeian virgin fair,
And a humming aye Italian,
She spied the sleeper there;
Then her eyes drank in his beauty—
He knew not what he saw—
With a beating heart and smitten,
The sleeper's lips she kissed.
The dream of purest fowl,
For sleeping thoughts enthrill us,
While waking thoughts enthrill.

Frank Monroe Beverly.

QUERIES & ANSWERS

A Problem.

I sell a horse worth \$30 for \$30, buy it back at \$30, sell at \$30, buy it back at \$30, and how much have I cleared?

Your horse is worth \$30 (presumably cost you that sum). And you neither make nor lose selling at \$30. You spend \$30 of this to buy back; have \$30 left, sell for \$100, clearing \$70 and have a total of \$110 cash, having profit of \$20. Omitting the \$30 you had \$80 value in the horse to start with. At the close you have no horse and \$110 in money, showing, of course, a profit of \$20.

Weight of Meal.

Did the last Legislature alter the weight of the standard bushel of meal in Virginia to forty-eight pounds? Is this now the legal weight?

Yes. Effective June 14, 1912.

S. S. RENDALLS.

Symmes's Theory.

When I was a boy I used to hear of a book and a theory of Admiral Symmes's teaching that the earth is hollow and inhabited on the inside. Credit his intelligence and private character, and weakening the force of that character as a model; as one, who could be charged with the use of borrowed sentiments, to which

Theory" was John Cleaves Symmes, native of New Jersey, first cousin to Mrs. Wm. Henry Harrison, a captain in the United States service in the War of 1812. He held that the earth is hollow, with great openings at the poles, and that polar bears, foxes, fishes, etc., make use of the interior of the earth. Symmes had a book, "Symmes's Theory of Concentric Spheres," demonstrating that the earth is hollow, habitable within, and widely open about the poles. It was published in Cincinnati in 1826, without author's name. The advertisement signed by "The Publisher" stated that the author is a resident of Miami county, etc., and the book has always been attributed to Captain Symmes. Symmes died in 1829.

Various.

Please give the meaning of "culti-
"drivable," "insoluble," and the names and residence cities of the last two American cardinals of the Roman Church.
S. J. W.

Cult is Latin, cultus, religion, and means any particular form of religious belief, and from that, any form of artistic or literary or even scientific or political belief, particularly when molded into a code or system. Drivable means capable of being directed, and negligible, capable of being neglected.

J. M. Farley, New York City. William H. O'Connell, Boston.

The rest of your letter is attended to by a Richmond firm, to which it was referred.

Consanguinity.

A marries his daughter, and B marries his daughter, and there is a child of each marriage. What kin are the children?
BILLS DOOLEY.

Unsigned Letters.

There are some dozen letters unanswered because they have no signature. It seems queer that people will send letters to this column if they never read it, and that it is impossible for any one should read it, without seeing the often repeated statement that letters will not be answered unless they are signed with the name of the writer. This name need not be published, but initials or any other form of signature answering for the purpose. But it must be given as a guarantee of the genuineness of the letter.

Poems Wanted.

M. Heverly asks for the verses beginning, "The farmer sat in his easy chair," and "M. A. asks for the verses, 'The Christmas Star.' Will any one be good enough to send copy?"

Baseball.

How many pitchers does a first-rate club carry? How often will a star pitcher be in a game?
J. O. C.

Interstates.

I observe that you use the form "Interstates," whereas the commission itself and almost every one else, in referring to it, use the form "Interstate." Why?

We do not quite understand whether you desire to know the reason for our usage or for that of "almost every one else." There are several things of which the Interstate Commission seems to be incapable, and one of them is the alteration of the Latin speech, "inter," a preposition, and means among, and "inter" must be followed by a plural form. The use of "Interstate" might be regarded as proof of the commission's power to its own usage, but it is much more likely that the commission would do well to study a little elementary Latin.

Books and Pamphlets.

Mrs. R. F. W. writes, she says for the second time, asking address of dealer who will buy old books and pamphlets. There is no address given to which the information may be sent and no stamp. Trade addresses may not be given here, but will be sent, so far as they may be obtained, whenever stamped and addressed envelope is received with the query.

Legal.

Can a citizen be forced to act as special constable?
READER.

He could not be forced to accept an appointment, but, in an emergency, he would be compelled to assist any officer who called on him for help in enforcing the law.

National State and City Bank

Richmond, Virginia.
Solicits Your Account.
Capital, \$1,000,000. Surplus, \$600,000.